

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Dipu Doshi on 7/12/12.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 5 and 6 are cancelled.

In Claim 16, line 2, deleted "impedance measurement".

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

3. The prior art of record fails to teach or render obvious a removable electrocoagulative anastomosis system comprising, inter alia, an inner sleeve having two annular contact surfaces which are electrically connected to one another by way of connecting elements, wherein one of the annular contact surfaces surface is connected to the electrical connector.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Darwin Erezzo whose telephone number is (571)272-4695. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30AM-4:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, ***please contact the examiner's supervisor, Corrine McDermott, at (571) 272-4754.***

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

If there are any inquiries that are not being addressed by first contacting the Examiner or the Supervisor, you may send an email inquiry to TC3700_Workgroup_D_Inquiries@uspto.gov.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Darwin P. Erezzo/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3773